

SECTION: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121, a complete listing of all claims in the application, and their status, is set forth below. The text of each pending claim is also provided. Please amend the pending claims as follows, wherein added matter is underlined and deleted matter is ~~stricken through~~ or [[double bracketed]] in the text of the currently amended claims, relative to the immediate prior version. The claims in this listing are deemed to replace all prior claims in the application.

1. (Original) A helmet comprising a shock absorbing element and means associated therewith to provide an indication of the impact status or history of the helmet.
2. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 1, wherein the said means comprises an electrical impact sensor.
3. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 2, wherein the electrical impact sensor comprises at least one capacitor, the electrical capacitance of which changes in the event of an impact.
4. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 2, wherein the electrical impact sensor comprises a strain gauge sensitive to the occurrence of an impact.
5. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 4, wherein the strain gauge incorporates a piezo electric component.
6. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 2, wherein the electrical impact sensor comprises a

quantum tunnelling material, and monitoring means arranged to monitor the electrical properties of the quantum tunnelling material.

7. (Currently Amended) A helmet according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 6~~ Claim 2, further comprising a memory arranged to record data representative of the occurrence of impacts.

8. (Currently Amended) A helmet according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 7~~ Claim 2, further comprising a monitoring unit arranged to monitor the output of the impact sensor.

9. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 8, wherein the monitoring unit is connected to the impact sensor periodically.

10. (Currently Amended) A helmet according to ~~any one of Claims 2 to 9~~ Claim 2, further comprising a warning device arranged to trigger a warning in the event that the impact sensor has detected the occurrence of an impact of magnitude greater than a predetermined magnitude.

11. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 1, wherein the said means comprises a component the state of which changes in the event of an impact exceeding a predetermined threshold, the state of the component being apparent to a user of the helmet.

12. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 11, wherein the change in state of the component is visibly apparent.

13. (Original) A helmet according to Claim 12, wherein the helmet includes a transparent element to allow the state of the component to be determined.

14. (Currently Amended) A helmet according to ~~any one of Claims 12 and 13~~ Claim 12, wherein the colour of the component changes in the event of an impact.

15. (Currently Amended) A helmet according to Claim 12 ~~or Claim 13~~, wherein the component is arranged to break, crack, shatter or otherwise visibly deform in the event of an impact.

16. (Currently Amended) A helmet according to Claim 12 ~~or Claim 13~~, wherein the component includes at least one rupturable ink or dye reservoir arranged to rupture, break, leak or overflow in the event of an impact.

17. (Canceled)